

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 294

By Camper

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Kenneth and Terrell Carpenter for their generous contributions to the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Kenneth and Terrell Carpenter are two such estimable citizens who evince the greatest integrity and probity in all their chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter recently donated a home to the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Sickle Cell disease is a red blood cell disorder that is found most commonly in persons of African, South or Central American, Caribbean, Mediterranean, or Middle Eastern descent; and

WHEREAS, in this country, it is estimated that some 70,000 to 100,000 people are affected by Sickle Cell disease, and an estimated two and a half to three million people have the Sickle Cell trait; and

WHEREAS, the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee, headed by Chief Executive Officer Trevor K. Thompson, is a charitable, non-profit, 501(c)3 organization that serves individuals living with the disease in Tennessee, eastern Arkansas, and northern Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, since starting in 2008, the Foundation has served more than 2,500 clients, educated approximately 700,000 on the facts surrounding Sickle Cell disease, and provided numerous clients with comprehensive social services and a holistic concept to foster interdependence and self-sufficiency; and

WHEREAS, among its awards, the Foundation earned the 2010 Chapter of the Year Award from the Sickle Cell Disease Association of America, and held the prestige of hosting the 2011 Sickle Cell Disease Association of America International Conference in Memphis; and

WHEREAS, there is a need for additional services and residences for persons living with Sickle Cell disease who may have limited resources and little family support; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Kenneth Carpenter and his wife, Mrs. Terrell Carpenter of Memphis, who understand and recognize the difficulties such patients face, made arrangements to donate a home to the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee with the intent of giving persons living with this disease a safe and comfortable home; and

WHEREAS, the residence, at 35 West Brooks Road in Memphis, newly renovated and open for services, held its grand opening on April 6, 2013, and was duly named "The Carpenter House," providing quality and affordable housing for adult male clients; and

WHEREAS, Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter are the father and stepmother respectively of our own Andre Carpenter, the audio-visual production specialist for the Tennessee House of Representatives, and a daughter, Amber Carpenter of Memphis, and they should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Carpenter for their unselfish donation of a home to the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee, resulting in the April 6, 2013, dedication of "The Carpenter House," a residence for adult males living with Sickle Cell disease.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this body congratulates the Sickle Cell Foundation of Tennessee and applauds its commitment to the care of its clients, and its role in a continued search for a cure for Sickle Cell disorders.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.